

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 8 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Abe et al (2003/0122759). Claim 4 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abe et al..

By this amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to clearly set forth that the contrast and brightness setting values are separate from the image data (Fig. 3). Moreover, the claim has been amended to clearly point out that the active-matrix OLED display panel includes a display and circuitry for providing current to each pixel in accordance with the separately-provided contrast and brightness setting values and the supplied image data. An advantage of this arrangement is the fact that the display settings for contrast and brightness are used along with the image data to provide an enhanced digital image.

Turning to Abe et al. Fig. 26, an image signal ("HD YPbPr") is inputted to a synchronization signal separation circuit 3, an RGB conversion part 7 and a selector 23 that provide RGB image data (paragraphs 405–409). This RGB image data corresponds to the image data of claim 1. The only other input to the structure of Fig. 26 is a VGA select input to the selector 23 which is a simple multiplexor (para. 409). Neither the image signal nor the VGA select input correspond to the separately-provided contrast and brightness setting values. By making use of these setting values in combination with the image data, Applicants' circuitry can drive current through the pixels that will produce an enhanced image on the display. Nothing in Abe et al. discloses or suggests any motivation for providing separate contrast and brightness setting values as in claim 1 of the present invention. Accordingly, amended claim 1 is believed to define unobvious subject matter and its allowance is urged.

The remaining claims depend upon claim 1 and should be allowed with it.

However, claim 2 requires that when the total panel current estimated by the estimation means does not exceed a specified set value, correction of contrast or brightness by the current control circuitry is not effected. In the disclosure of Abe et al. (para. 470), the adjustment of image data is not effected when the APL value of the image data is small enough to prevent overflow of the output of multiplier 201. This is a hardware limitation and not a value which can be easily adjusted as in the present invention. The structure of

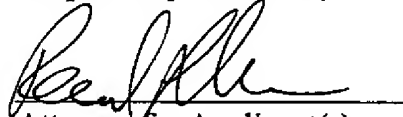
Abe et al. is concerned with preventing numerical overflow, not with preventing excessive current.

With respect to claim 5, the Examiner has indicated that it contains allowable subject matter if incorporated into the base claim. The term C is the separately-provided contrast setting value and the term B is the separately-provided brightness setting value. These terms are not found in any of the cited references.

Applicants acknowledge that the Examiner indicated that claim 6 also contains allowable subject matter if incorporated into the base claim.

It is believed that amended claim 1 now defines unobvious subject matter. The remaining claims all depend on claim 1 and should be allowed with it. If there are any problems with these changes, Applicants' attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ray L. Owens', is written over a horizontal line.

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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.